

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGUI 00896 062025Z

73

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

SP-03 CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01

/198 W

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R 061730Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4999

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCAM, XA, PFOR

SUBJECT: EIGHTH OCAM SUMMIT CONFERENCE: OPENING SESSION COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS MEETING

REF BANGUI 0881 (NOTAL)

1. OPENING SESSION OCAM COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING GOT OFF TO
SMOOTH START MORNING OF AUGUST 6. ALL OCAM MEMBER COUNTRIES
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PAGE 02 BANGUI 00896 062025Z

REPRESENTED. OBSERVER DELEGATIONS INCLUDED CAMEROON, ILO, OAU,

AFL/CIO AND VARIOUS UN ORGANIZATIONS.

2. HOST CAR FONMIN JOSEPH POTOLOT ELECTED COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CHAIRMAN. TOGOLESE AND SENEGALESE DELEGATION HEADS ELECTED RAPPORTEUR. IN OTHERWISE INNOCUOUS OPENING ADDRESS OF WELCOME, POTOLOT GAVE EXPRESSION TO GENERAL FEELING AMONG OCAM DELEGATES THAT ORGANIZATION FACES PROBLEMS IN RESPECT OF ITS FUTURE. THIS REFLECTED PERVADING TENOR OF MEETING THAT OCAM MUST BE DEPOLITICIZED AND FIND ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL AND CULTURAL MEANS OF EXPRESSION IF IT IS TO SURVIVE. IN THIS CONNECTION, GABONESE DELEGATION HERE IS REPORTEDLY NOT CERTAIN GABON WILL REMAIN IN OCAM AND OTHER DELEGATIONS MAY ALSO BE WAVERING. ON OTHER HAND, SEYCHELLES IS SAID TO BE SEEKING TO JOIN AS NEW MEMBER.

3. POTOLOT ALSO EXPRESSED VIEW THAT QUOTE CERTAIN STATES CONSIDER OCAM AND ITS SPECIALIZED INSTITUTIONS UNQUOTE (SUCH AS AIR AFRIQUE, THE PAN AFRICAN COOPERATIVE TRAINING SCHOOL AT COTONOU, ETC.) QUOTE AS THEIR EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY TO THE DETRIMENT OF OTHER MEMBER STATES UNQUOTE.

4. IN REGARD TO SECRETARY GENERAL ELECTION, INCUMBENT FALILOU KANE HAS ALREADY PUBLICLY STATED HE WILL NOT BE CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED HIMSELF. POSSIBLE CANDIDATES ARE NOT YET BEING DISCUSSED OPENLY.

5. FINAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING, SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AUGUST 10, STILL NOT COMPLETE. GOCAR SOURCE HAS COMMENTED THAT CAR PRESIDENT BOKASSA TODAY RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM SENEGAL PRESIDENT SENGHOR, OCAM INCUMBENT PRESIDENT, THAT HE WOULD BE UNABLE ATTEND OCAM MEETING. BOKASSA REPORTEDLY TRYING PREVAIL UPON SENGHOR TO REVERSE HIS DECISION. CHIEFS OF STATE, WHOSE ATTENDANCE HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED, INCLUDE IVORY COAST, WHOSE PRESIDENT IS QUOTE DOYEN OF OCAM UNQUOTE AND UPPER VOLTA.

6. COUNCIL MINISTERS APPOINTED FOUR WORKING GROUPS TO MEET AUGUST 7 AND 8, TO PREPARE REPORTS FOR FINAL COUNCIL MINISTERS SESSION AUGUST 9. WORKING GROUP I ON POLITICAL AND LEGAL AFFAIRS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BANGUI 00896 062025Z

WILL DEAL IN PARTICULAR WITH QUESTION OF LOCATION OF OCAM HEADQUARTERS. WORKING GROUP II WILL DISCUSS MEMBER STATE CONTRIBUCTIONS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS. CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS WORKING GROUP WILL CONCERN ITSELF WITH YOUTH MATTERS, AND THE STATUS OF THE POLICY OF AFRICANIZATION OF CADRES IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISES. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL WORKGROUP WILL DISCUSS EC/ASSOCIATED STATE RELATIONS; AFRICAN/MALGASY SUGAR AGREEMENT; AND PROBLEMS OF MARITIME TRANSPORT AND HARMON-

IZATION OF MARITIME LEGISLATION.

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